

The Licensing Department,
Swale Borough Council,
Swale House,
East Street,
Sittingbourne,
Kent,
ME10 3HT

[REDACTED]
Brenley Lane,
Boughton Under Blean,
Faversham,
[REDACTED]

Dear Sirs,

I wish to object to the application for the provision of live and recorded music and dance outside in a marquee at Brenley Farm.

The grounds for my objection are that the proposed increase in activities are completely inappropriate given the location of the property. Brenley Lane is a narrow country lane with no footpaths and is not served by public transport. Therefore, all movements to and from the site by guests and contractors would result in increased and unsustainable motor vehicle movements.

The application is not driven by public need. There are already several venues in the locality offering similar facilities in far more suitable locations. It could well be argued that it is a sector that is already over supplied.

The proposed activities would take place in an unspoilt area on the edge of countryside and would have a damaging and disturbing effect on local wildlife, in particular bats and owls which are present in the area and on nesting birds in the spring.

Most significant however, is the adverse effect that the proposed activities and resulting noise pollution would have on the residents within the area affected by the proposals.

Providing live, recorded music and dance outside in a marquee would cause serious noise pollution over a wide area. A marquee is a cheap option method of providing accommodation for a large number of people at a minimal cost, hence the appeal to event providers. However, a marquee provides little or no insulation against sound transmission, so effectively in these circumstances, this application is an application to hold regular weekend outside music events. In terms of providing accommodation for the proposed activities a marquee is totally unsuitable. Extensive noise pollution would be the inevitable outcome, as sound insulation in a marquee cannot be provided and sound limiting equipment can be compromised and rendered ineffective.

If the applicants wish to offer live/recorded music and dancing at the premises the only reasonable option would be to provide indoor accommodation in a suitable building that could be insulated against noise transmission and where sound limiting equipment could be utilised effectively.

Sound from outside music events travels long distances in open country, particularly at night. The areas that would be affected by noise pollution would principally be, Brenley

Lane, the hamlets around Boughton Church, Crouch, Gushmere, South Street and Neames Forstal.

My objection to noise pollution is not based on an imagined scenario. we have already had an unpleasant foretaste of the range and intensity of noise transmission from the premises during a similar private event held at Brenley Farm last year.

This objection is therefore genuinely based on having already experienced what could potentially become regular weekend events resulting in a considerable number of local residents being denied the quiet enjoyment of their homes and gardens every Friday and Saturday because of noise pollution emanating from the premises.

Finally, I have another major concern with regard to this application. Although I was fortunate enough to spot the Public Notice of this application, I fear that most of the people who would be affected by this proposal are probably unaware of the existence of the application. The distribution and readership of the local newspaper is very sparse and the only other reference to the application is probably on the SBC website. Unfortunately, there is now not the time to make others aware of the potential nuisance and noise pollution that would result if this application is approved. I would therefore suggest that were these proposals more widely known then there would be more objections to the application.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Christopher Hodgson.

The Licensing Department,
Swale Borough Council,
Swale House,
East Street,
Sittingbourne,
Kent,
ME10 3HT

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Helen Hodgson